

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%, and ~~The sintered sliding member according to claim 1,~~

wherein a composition of said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one carbide selected from the group consisting of Cr₇C₃ carbide, M₆C carbide and MC carbide, said at least one carbide being coarsened to have an average grain size of at least 40μm, dispersed and precipitated therein in a content of at least 3% by volume by adding Cr powder, Mo powder, W powder, V powder or ferrous alloy powder contained high alloying element.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%,~~The sintered sliding member according to claim 16,~~

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of Cr of at least 9wt%, Mo of at least 3.5wt%, Mo and W in a total amount of at least 4.5wt%, and V of at least 3wt% such that said martensite phase contains at least one carbide selected from the group consisting of Cr₇C₃ carbide, M₆C carbide, and MC carbide dispersed therein,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ni of 1 to 5wt%, Mn of 1 to 2wt%, Co of 2 to 12wt% and Al of 0.2 to 1.5wt%, and

wherein said martensite phase contains retained austenite phase dispersed therein in a content of 5 to 40% by volume.

18-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%, ~~The ferrous sintered sliding member according to claim 30,~~

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of Cr of at least 9wt%, Mo of at least 3.5wt%, Mo and W in a total amount of at least 4.5wt%, and V of at least 3wt% such that said martensite phase contains at least one carbide selected from the group consisting of Cr₇C₃ carbide, M₆C carbide, and MC carbide dispersed therein,

wherein said sintered sliding member is a floating seal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains Cr₇C₃ carbide, M₆C carbide, and MC carbide dispersed therein in a total content of 20 to 40% by volume and said back metal has a hardness of at least Hv170, and

wherein said martensite phase contains retained austenite dispersed therein in a content of 5 to 40% by volume.

35-43. (Cancelled)